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NAVAL MEN'S EASY LIFE.
A Surplus of Apparently Idle Officers
in Washington.
Special in Philadelphia, Press.
Senator Tillman, who is a member of the
Senate committee on naval affairs, is talking
about asking for an increased number of

naval officers are on duty in Washington, D. C., and that the number of these officers is greatly in excess of other branches of the service. The remarkable state of affairs in view of the fact that while the number of naval officers is so large, the number of the enlisted men is so small, and the difficulty experienced in securing officers for sea duty.

There are 17 officers assigned to duty in Washington. This number does not include the 100 officers of the Marine Corps, the 100 officers who make Washington their home, and the 100 officers of the Navy who are on duty in the various bureaus, twenty are attached to the Navy Department and the remainder are assigned to duty in the various bureaus of the Naval Almanac office, the observatory, the Washington board, etc.

The Washington board is a school for naval officers, and it is the plan of the Navy Department to have a school in ordnance for a short period, enabling them to get a practical insight into gunnery.

the Bureau of Construction, which has the responsibility of building ships, has but two officers, one of whom is in addition to the chief, while the other is in charge of the personnel and is mainly clerical. The chief is acting as assistants to the chief of bureau.

which would make the bulk of the work, and would consist of a technical officer, and all of that is of a technical nature. In addition, there is the chief of bureau, who is a line officer by the way, there is a professor of mathematics and an assistant professor of the latter of whom are vague. Under the Bureau of Steam Engineering require engineers to look after the technical details of the ship. But the chief of bureau there is very little technical work, there are a few technical officers, but they are assistant to the chief. The technical work of the bureau is confined to electric lighting and electric power. There are only four or five officers to attend to these matters. There are also a few officers, about five officers in addition to the editor-in-chief, a naval officer. It is probable that the chief of bureau has access to these records, which should be now maintained in the chief of bureau's office.

"Many of the officers on duty in Washington are needed, but some of the others are available," says one source in the Navy Department who is practically enjoying his vacation here. "I will show you what the officers attached to the technical bureau have all they can attend to, and the rest of them are waiting around in the line of an officer's duties. But I am sure that if we had a few more congressional and social than of any value to the government."

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Detroit Free Press.

Chicago aldermen are just as white as the driven Chicago snow.

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